



6th November 2020

Dear parents and carers,

As-Salaamu-Alaykum and a very happy Friday.

The children have had a great first week back at the Zaytouna Family home and the school has been alive with laughter and learning. The new timings have meant that we've been able to really maximise learning and I'm confident that the impact on pupil outcomes will be positive.

On Thursday 1st October, we had a no notice Ofsted visit as part of their Autumn term visits to schools. This involved two inspectors being in school for the day and a range of conversations with myself and members of the leadership team. The outcome of the day was very positive and our achievements and strategic response to Covid-19 was recognised. We're very proud of this!

I've attached the letter for your perusal.

This is yet another piece of evidence that recognises and celebrates our commitment to being a school of excellence.

Thanks as always for your support,

A. Storer

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26 October 2020

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Dear Ms Storer

Ofsted visit to Zaytouna Primary School

Following my visit with Chris Davies, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 1 October 2020, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to confirm the visit's findings. Thank you for the time you made available to discuss your actions since September 2020, when the government expected all schools to open fully to all pupils.

This visit was conducted under section 8 of the Education Act 2005 (as amended) and in accordance with Ofsted's published procedures for visiting schools while routine inspections are temporarily suspended.

Ofsted's visits to schools during the autumn term are not inspections. We are not giving graded judgements. We did not undertake the usual range of inspection activities and were unable to check other sources of evidence, such as visits to lessons or looking at pupils' work. The content of this letter gives an overview of our discussions about what has happened in your school this term.

During the visit, we spoke with you, the deputy headteacher, one of the leaders responsible for safeguarding and the leader responsible for faith, parents and partnerships. We did not speak to pupils because of the protective measures in place.

Context

Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills is leading Ofsted's work into how England's education system is managing the return to full

education for pupils, following an extended break in formal schooling due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

In undertaking this focused work, HMI are visiting a broad range of schools. HMI will visit a sample of:

- approximately 1,200 schools across all Ofsted grades (outstanding, good, requires improvement and inadequate)
- maintained schools, academies and free schools, special schools and centres of alternative provision, including those in cities, and coastal, town or rural communities.

The information from this visit will feed into Ofsted's national reporting so that the insights can be shared with the government and the education sector. We did not find any significant concerns during the visit. In such a case, an inspection report would be published on our website and available to parents and carers.

We did not consider your response to COVID-19 during the spring and summer terms 2020, when the school was not open to all pupils.

From this visit, inspectors noted that:

- The school opened to all pupils on 7 September 2020. All pupils returned on a full-time basis.
- Pupils' attendance is slightly higher than usual for this time of year. Leaders have communicated to parents their expectation that pupils should be in school every day.
- Pupils have returned to studying their usual curriculum. Leaders have prioritised the teaching of phonics, mathematics and reading.
- Teachers have checked what pupils know in phonics, mathematics and reading. Staff have received training so that their teaching covers any gaps in pupils' knowledge.
- All children in the Reception classes read daily to staff, as do all pupils in Years 1 and 2, and any vulnerable pupils in other years.
- In mathematics, leaders have identified that some pupils have gaps in their knowledge of shape and space. Teachers have changed their planning to cover this. You told us that pupils' knowledge of number and calculation has remained strong.
- Pupils are receiving extra physical-education lessons. Currently, they are not able to go swimming. Teachers are making sure pupils experience science investigations.

- Leaders have plans to deliver the usual curriculum should any pupils need to stay at home. This will build on your existing remote learning resources. You told us that pupils engaged well with this before.

Thank you again for contributing to this important national work. The views and experiences you have shared will help to inform future policy.

I am copying this letter to the chair of the governing body, the chief executive officer of the multi-academy trust, the regional schools commissioner and the director of children's services for Derby. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Peter Stonier
Her Majesty's Inspector